

BILL NO. 1 2010

AN ORDINANCE

I, LINDA A. KELLEHER, City Clerk of the City of Reading, Pa., do hereby certify, that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original Ordinance passed by the Council of the City of Reading, on the 25 day of Jan A. D. 2010. Witness my hand and seal of the said City this 27 day of Jan A. D. 2010.

CITY CLERK

**AN ORDINANCE DIRECTING THE BERKS COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE CITY VOTERS ON THE 2010 PRIMARY BALLOT WHICH WOULD AMEND THE CITY OF READING HOME RULE CHARTER BY ELIMINATING THE DEPARTMENTS OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND FINANCE AND CREATING THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES.**

**WHEREAS**, Section 607 of the Home Rule Charter provides for the Department of Finance and a Director of Finance; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 705 of the Home Rule Charter provides for the Department of Human Resources and the Director of Human Resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the fiscal condition of the City requires strict cost containment, which requires the careful consolidation of comparable services and management functions; and

**WHEREAS**, other municipalities in Pennsylvania function efficiently and effectively with the functions of human resources and financial administration centralized under the direction of Business Administrators; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Reading Home Rule Charter requires that there be a Department of Finance and a Department of Human Resources and that any change to this structure will require an amendment to the Charter.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF READING HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION 1.** Directing the Berks County Board of Elections to place the following referendum question to voters of the City of Reading on the 2010 primary ballot:

**Restructuring of Finance and Human Resources Departments**

"Shall the Home Rule Charter be amended by combining the City of Reading Human Resources and Finance Departments to form one department called Department of Administrative Services, headed by the Director of Administrative Services, appointed by the Mayor and approved by City Council, which will make the Director of Administrative Services responsible for the administration of the City of Reading personnel and finance departments and

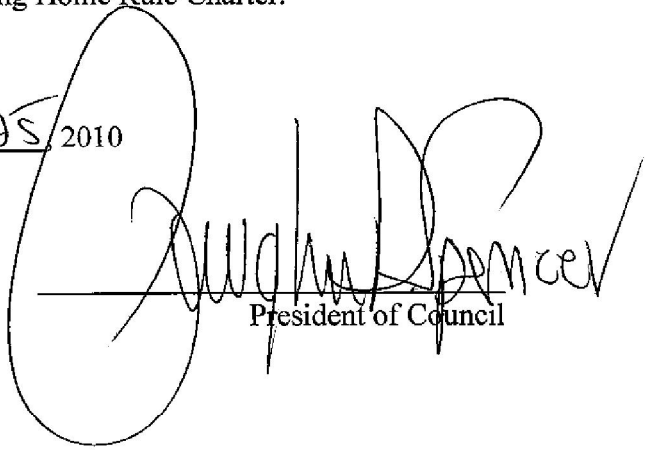
their functions as set forth in the Administrative Code? The amendment will require the Director of Administrative Services to have at a minimum a Bachelor's degree in public administration, finance, economics, political science or other related field and a minimum of eight (8) years related experience. The approved amendment would eliminate the Home Rule Charter Section 705 Human Resources and require the renumbering of Article VII Personnel System. It will also require replacing all references to the Director of Finance and Director of Human Resources with Director of Administrative Services in the City of Reading Home Rule Charter."

**Simple Explanation**

Having separate directors of finance and human resources costs the City approximately \$220,000 per year (salary and benefits). A YES VOTE will combine these departments eliminating the need for the City to employ two individual directors and reduce the annual salary expense by approximately \$110,000. This change will not require the addition of any personnel. Other municipalities in Pennsylvania have successfully combined these two departments to improve efficiency and save money. A NO VOTE will retain both the Finance Department and the Human Resources Departments and require that the City employ a Finance Director and a Human Resources Director


**SECTION 2.** This ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after its adoption, in accordance with Section 221 of the City of Reading Home Rule Charter.

Enacted Jan 15 2010

  
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President of Council

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

Submitted to Mayor: 

Date: 1-26-10

Received by the Mayor's Office: TR

Date: 1/26/10

Approved by Mayor: br

Date: 1/26/10

Vetoed by Mayor: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_